



Tempe Art in Private Development



Price/Warner Commerce Center

2039 E. Warner Road

Otto Rigan

Abacus, 2000

Stone and Glass

Artist Website:

www.ottoriganstudio.com

Description: *Abacus* is a composite of 10 smaller sculptures that fit together to form an artistic interpretation of the abacus mathematical tool. The sculpture was inspired by a real mathematical problem, and is enjoyed by the owners of the building, Henry & Horne accounting firm. *Abacus* earned the Price/Warner Commerce Center team a Beautification Award for Art in Private Development Excellence in 2001.

Artist biography: Although Rigan trained as a painter, he has pursued many broad-ranging and cross-disciplinary projects throughout his career. While still in college he completed his first large-scale public commission. In his early 20s, Rigan apprenticed to a master architectural glass craftsman. He then wrote and photographed four books and lectured widely on their subjects. While in his 30s, Rigan began to develop the sculpture for which he is most noted. His sculptural explorations reflect his interest in the temporality of glass and how it manipulates light, merged with the physicality of stone – a metaphor for architecture, permanence, and the organic. Rigan splits his time between making studio-based autonomous works to large-scale public and corporate spaces. The larger commissions often merge architecture, landscape and other disciplines as an extension of the artist's palette.

Funding: This project was funded by the individual developer, Henry & Horne, as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.